

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2263
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE
Jai Prakash Shri

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has seen the report released by the World Bank which suggests heavy investment in agricultural sector for the welfare of millions of poor rural Indians;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is taking any steps in view of the above report;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a)to(d): World Development Report 2008 titled 'Agriculture for Development' emphasizes for greater investment in agriculture in developing countries. The report stresses that the agricultural sector must be placed at the centre of the development agenda for reducing extreme poverty and hunger.

As per the data compiled by Central Statistical Organization, the total investment in the Agriculture and allied sectors measured in terms of Gross Capital Formation (GCF) (at constant 1999-2000 prices) has increased from Rs.53,840 crore in 2003-04 to Rs.57,253 crore in 2004-05 and further to Rs.64,131 crore in 2005-06. Further, towards improving the growth in the agriculture sector, Government has initiated, inter-alia, the following:

Launched of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) with an outlay of Rs.4,882 crore for the Eleventh Plan period. It aims to add additional 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by the end of the Eleventh Plan.

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), a State Plan Scheme, with an outlay of Rs.25,000 crore aims at achieving 4% annual growth in the agriculture sector during the Eleventh Plan period, to ensure a holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors.

Providing additional resources for irrigation.

Strategic focus on the national agriculture research effort.